

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01044 021154Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MC-02

TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-13

AID-05 IGA-02 SSM-03 /092 W
----- 099906

R 021122Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3527
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USCINCEUR ALSO POLADS
CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1044

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, LY, EG

SUBJ: LAR MEDIA REPORTS EGYPTIAN ARMS BUILDUP

1. BRIEF ARTICLE IN JULY 31, LOCAL PRESS ACCUSES EGYPT
OF MILITARY GUILDUP OF WAR MATERIEL IN AL SALLOUM
REGION OF EGYPT'S WESTERN DESERT. ACCORDING TO
ARTICLE IN LARG CONTROLLED DAILY AL FAJR AL JIHAD,
SADAT REGIME ORDERED ONE THOUSAND TRAIN SHUTTLES FROM
CAIRO AND ALEXANDRIA TO AL SALLOUM TO TRANSPORT HEAVY
ARMAMENTS AND SOLDIERS DURING WEEK OF JULY 23.

2. ARTICLE WRITER QUOTES EGYPTIAN RAILWAY OFFICIALS,
STATING THAT NORMALLY SCHEDULED TRAINS HAD BEEN
CANCELLED BECAUSE OF TRANSPORTATION OF MILITARY
EQUIPMENT. WRITER CLAIMS SADAT REGIME, INSTEAD OF
DIRECTING ARMS AT CHESTS OF ENEMIES OF ARAB NATION
IN SINAI, PROVOKING FRATERNAL NEIGHBORS WHO ARE REAL
LINE OF DEFENSE.

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COMMENT: ARTICLE ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL IN PAST FEW DAYS

ALLEGING EGYPTIAN CONCENTRATION OF MILITARY FORCES AND
INTENTION OF EGYPTIANS TO INVADE LIBYA. QADHAFI
PRESUMABLY TAKING MOVEMENT OF EGYPTIAN FORCES
SERIOUSLY. WE HAVE REPORTS OF LIBYAN COUNTERMOVES
AND HAVE OBSERVED TRANSPORTATION OF TANKS TOWARD
EASTERN BORDER. POSSIBLY RELATED TO MILITARY MOVES
HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF SCARCITY OF GASOLINE IN BENGHAZI
AND WESTERN COASTAL SUBURBS OF TRIPOLI. ATMOSPHERE
IN TRIPOLI APPEARS NORMAL. ACCORDING TO RECENTLY
RETURNED EMBASSY TRAVELERS BENGHAZI ALSO NORMAL.
CARLE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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04 MAY 2006

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